GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:302
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR GAS- BASED POWER PROJECTS
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of gas-based power projects which have been granted environmental clearance by the Union Government during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise;

(b) the norms/criteria/methodology fixed for granting the clearances;

(c) the number of projects still pending with the Union Government and the reasons for their pendency, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared by the Union Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 302 REGARDING "ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE FOR GAS-BASED POWER PROJECTS" ASKED BY SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY DUE FOR ANSWER ON 5.9.2007.

(a) Details of gas-based power projects which have been granted environmental clearance during 1st January, 2004 to 31st July, 2007 is given in the Appendix.

(b) All gas-based power plants have to obtain environmental clearance as per the provisions of the EIA notification of 2006. Plants with capacity less than 500 MW are to be appraised at the State level and those equal to or more than 500 MW are to be appraised at the Central level. The projects are appraised by the duly constituted Expert Appraisal Committee for thermal power projects based on the Environmental Impact Assessment report submitted by the project proponent and any other such information as is felt necessary by the Environment Appraisal Committee. Based on the recommendations of the Environment Appraisal Committee a decision is taken regarding environmental clearance.

(c) Three gas-based thermal power projects one from Madhya Pradesh and two from Maharashtra are pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests as on 31st July, 2007. These projects are pending for want of requisite information/clarifications from the project proponent.

(d) These projects will be considered after receipt of requisite information from the project proponents.